



Excepts from **CHRISTIAN ASTROLOGY VOL I**

AN
INTRODUCTION
TO **ASTROLOGY.**

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Omne meum, nil meum: Nihil dictum, quod non dictum prius.



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CHAP. VI.

Of the Twelve Houses of Heaven, and some Names or Terms of Astrology.

The whole Sphere of Heaven is divided into four equal parts by the Meridian and Horizon, and again into four.....

p.48quadrants, and every quadrant again into three parts, according to other circles drawn by points of sections of the aforesaid Meridian and Horizon; so the whole Heaven is divided into twelve equal parts, which the astrologers call Houses or Mansions, taking their beginning from the East.

The first quadrant is described from the East to the Midheaven, or from the line of the first house to the line of the tenth house, and contains the twelfth, eleventh and tenth houses. It is called the *Oriental, Vernal, Masculine, Sanguine, Infant quarter*.

The second quadrant is from the cusp of the Midheaven to the cusp of the seventh house, containing the ninth, eighth and seventh houses, and is called the *Meridian, Estival, Feminine, Youthful, Choleric quarter*.

The third quadrant is from the cusp of the seventh house to the cusp of the fourth house, and contains the sixth, fifth and fourth houses, is called the *Occidental, Autumnal, Masculine, Melancholic, Manhood, cold and dry*.

The fourth quadrant is from the cusp of the fourth to the cusp of the first house, and contains the third, second and first house, is *Northern, Feminine, Old Age, of the nature of Winter, Phlegmatic*.

The first, tenth, seventh and fourth houses hereof are called *Angles*, the eleventh, second, eighth and fifth are called *Succeedants*, the third, twelfth, ninth and sixth, are termed *Cadents*: The angles are most powerful, the succeedants are next in virtue, the cadents poor, and of little efficacy: the succedant houses follow the angles, the cadents come next [*after*] the succeedants. In force and virtue they stand so in order:

1 10 7 4 11 5 9 3 2 8 6 12

The meaning whereof is this, that two planets equally dignified, one in the Ascendant, the other in the tenth house, you shall judge the planet in the Ascendant somewhat of more power to effect what he is significator of, than he that is in the tenth: do so in the rest as they stand in order, remembering that planets in angles do more forcibly show their effects.

When we name the lord of the Ascendant, or significator.....

p.49of the querent, or thing quesited; we mean no other thing than that planet who is lord of that sign which ascends, or lord of that sign from which house the thing demanded is required; as if from the seventh house, the lord of that sign descending on the cusp is significator, and so in the rest: but of this in the ensuing judgements.

Cosignificator is when you find another planet in aspect or σ with that planet who is the principal significator; this said planet shall hath signification more or less, and either assist or not in effecting the thing desired; and so hath something to do in the judgement, and ought to be considered: if a friendly planet, he notes good; if an infortune the contrary, *viz.*, either the destruction of the thing, or disturbance in it.

Almuten, of any house is that planet who hath most dignities in the sign ascending or descending upon the cusp of any house, whereon, or from whence, you require your judgement.

Almuten of a figure, is that planet who in essential and accidental dignities is most powerful in the whole scheme of Heaven.

The Dragon's Head we sometimes call
The Dragon's Tail

Anabibazon.
Catabibazon.

The longitude of a planet is his distance from the beginning of Υ , numbered according to the succession of signs, unto the place of the planet.

Latitude is the distance of a planet from the ecliptic, either towards the north or south, by which means we come to say, a planet hath either *septentrional* or *meridional* latitude, when either he recedes from the ecliptic towards the north or south.

Only the \odot continually moves in the ecliptic, and never hath any latitude.

Declination of a planet is his distance from the equator, and as he declines from thence either northward or southward, so is his declination nominated either north or south.

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CHAP. VII.

Of the Twelve Houses, their Nature and Signification.

As before we have said there are twelve signs, and also twelve houses of Heaven, so now we are come to relate the nature of these twelve houses; the exact knowledge whereof is so requisite, that he who shall learn the nature of the planets and signs without exact judgement of the houses, is like an improvident man, that furnisheth himself with variety of household stuff, having no place wherein to bestow them.

There is nothing appertaining to the life of man in this world, which in one way or other hath not relation to one of the twelve houses of Heaven, and as the twelve signs are appropriate to the particular members of man's body; so also do the twelve houses represent not only the several parts of man, but his actions, quality of life and living. And the curiosity and judgement of our fore-fathers in Astrology was such as they have allotted to every house a particular signification, and so distinguished humane accidents throughout the twelve houses, as he that understands the Questions appertaining to each of them, shall not want sufficient grounds whereon to judge or give a rational answer upon any contingent accident, and success thereof.

Of the First House and its Signification.

The first house, which contains all that part of Heaven from the line where the figure one standeth, until the figure two, where the second house beginneth.

It hath signification of the life of man, of the stature, colour, complexion, form and shape of him that propounds the Question, or is born; in Eclipses and Great Conjunctions, and upon the \odot his annual ingress into Υ ; it signifies the common people, or general state of that kingdom where the figure is erected.

And as it is the first house, it represents the head and face of man, so that if either \hbar , $\♂$ or $\♁$ be in this house, either at the time of the Question, or at the time of birth, you shall observe.....

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.....some blemish in the face, or in that member appropriate to the sign that then is upon the cusp of the house; as if Υ be in the Ascendant, the mark, mole, or scar is without fail in the head or face; and if few degrees of the sign ascend, the mark is in the upper part of the head; if the middle of the sign be on the cusp, the mole, mark or scar is in the middle of the face, or near it; if the later degrees ascend, the face is blemished near the chin, towards the neck. This I have found true in hundreds of examples.

Of colours, it hath the white; that is, if a planet be in this house that hath signification of white, the complexion of the party is more pale, white and wan; or if

you enquire after the colour of the clothes of any man, if his significator be in the first house, and in a sign corresponding, the party's apparel is white or grey, or somewhat near that colour, so also if the question be for cattle; when their significators are found in this house, it denotes them to be of that colour or near it: The house is masculine.

The cosignificators of this house are Υ and ♁ ; for as this house is the first house, so is Υ the first sign, and ♁ the first of the planets, and therefore when ♁ is but moderately well fortified in this house, and in any benevolent aspect of ♁ , ♀ , ☉ or ♃ , it promises a good sober constitution of body, and usually long life: ♃ doth also joy in this house, because it represents the head, and he the tongue, fancy and memory: When he is well dignified and posited in this house, he produces good orators: It is called the Ascendant, because when the ☉ commeth to the cusp of this house, he ascends, or then ariseth, and is visible in our horizon.

Questions concerning the Second house.

From this house is required judgement concerning the estate or fortune of him that asks the question, of his wealth or poverty, of all removable goods, money lent, of profit or gain, loss or damage; in suits of law, it signifies a man's friends or assistants; in private duels, the querent's second; in an Eclipse or Great Conjunction, the poverty or wealth of....

p.52the people; in the ☉ his entrance into Υ , it represents the ammunition, allies and support the Common-wealth shall have; it imports their magazines.

It represents in man the neck, and hinder parts of it towards the shoulders; of colours the green.

So that if one make demand concerning any thing specified above in this house, you must look for signification from hence: It's a feminine house and Succedant, called in some Latin authors *Anaphora*.¹

It hath cosignificators ♁ and ♃ ; for if ♁ be placed in this house, or be lord hereof, it's an argument of an estate or fortune; ☉ and ♂ are never well placed in this house, either of them show dispersion of substance, according to the capacity and quality of him that is either born or asks the question.

The Third house.

Hath signification of brethren, sisters, cousins or kindred, neighbours, small journeys, or inland-journeys, oft removing from one place to another, epistles, letters, rumours, messengers: It doth rule the shoulders, arms, hands and fingers.

Of colours, it governeth the red and yellow, or croceal or sorrel colour²: It hath cosignificators, of the signs ♈ , of the planets ♂ ; which is one reason why ♂ in this house, unless joined with ♁ is not very unfortunate. It is a cadent house, and is the joy of the ♃ ; for if she be posited therein, especially in a moveable sign,³ it's an

¹ The Latin author Julius Firmicus Maternus refers to the 2nd house by this term in his 4th century textbook *Matheseos Libri VIII* (Eight Books of the Theory of Astrology). It is translated in Jean Rhys Bram edition as meaning 'rising up from the underworld' a reference to the diurnal movement of the houses, which takes the 2nd house away from the lower midheaven (connected with the underworld) and up towards the ascendant.

² The word 'Croceal' or 'saffron' describes an orange-yellow colour; the word takes its root from the colour of an *autumn crocus*, also known as a *meadow saffron*. Sorrel describes a light, orangy brown colour.

³ The traditional terms **moveable**, **fixed**, **common** relate to the modern astrological terms **cardinal**, **fixed**, **mutable** respectively. The moveable signs are therefore the cardinal signs of Aries, Cancer, Libra and Capricorn.

argument of much travel, trotting and trudging, or of being seldom quiet. The house is masculine.

The Fourth house.

Giveth judgement of fathers in general and ever of his father that enquires, or that is born; of lands, houses, tenements, inheritances, tillage of the earth, treasures hidden, the determination or end of anything; towns, cities or castles, besieged or not besieged; all ancient dwellings, gardens, fields, pastures, orchards; the quality and nature of the.....

p.53grounds one purchaseth, whether vineyards, cornfield, &c., whether the ground be woody, stony or barren.

The sign of the fourth denoteth the town, the lord thereof, the governor. It ruleth the breast, lungs.

Of colours, the red: Its cosignificator is ☉, and of planets the ♀; we call it the Angle of the Earth, or *Imum Coeli*; it is feminine, and the North Angle: In Nativities or Questions, this fourth house represents fathers, so doth the ☉ by day and ♃ by night; yet if the ☉ be herein placed, he is not ill, but rather shows the father to be of a noble disposition, &c.

The Fifth house.

By this house we judge of children, of ambassadors, of the state of a woman with child, of banquets, of ale-houses, taverns, plays, messengers or agents for republics; of the wealth of the father, the ammunition of a town besieged; if the woman with child shall bring forth male or female; of the health or sickness of his son or daughter that asks the Question.

It ruleth the stomach, liver, heart, sides and back, and is masculine.

Of colours, black and white, or honey-colour, and is a succedant house. Its cosignificators are ♁ and ♀, who doth joy in this house in regard it's the house of pleasure, delight and merriment; it's wholly unfortunate by ♂ or ♃, and they therein show disobedient children and untoward.

The Sixth house.

It concerneth men and maid-servants, galley slaves, hogs, sheep, goats, hares, conies,⁴ all manner of lesser cattle, and profit and loss got thereby; sickness, its quality and cause, principal humour offending, curable or not curable, whether the disease be short or long; day-labourers, tenants, farmers, shepherds, hogherds, neatherds,⁵ warreners;⁶ and it signifieth uncles, or the father's brothers and sisters.

It ruleth the inferior part of the belly, and intestines even.....

p.54to the arse: this house is a feminine and cadent house, unfortunate, as having no aspect to the Ascendant.

Of colours, black colour. ♂ rejoyceth in this house, but his cosignificator is of the Signs ♃, of planets ♀; we usually find that ♂ and ♀ in conjunction in this house, are arguments of a good Physician.

⁴ Rabbits.

⁵ Cowherds; a 'neat' is a domestic, ox-like beast.

⁶ A man in charge of a rabbit warren; sometimes extended to any gamekeeper. The word 'warren' in Anglo-Saxon England described an enclosure where small game animals or birds were kept for breeding.

The Seventh house.

It giveth judgement of marriage, and describes the person inquired after, whether it be man or woman; all manner of love questions, our public enemies; the defendant in a law-suit, in war the opposing party; all quarrels, duels, law-suits; in Astrology the artist himself; in physic the physician; thieves and thefts; the person stealing, whether man or woman; wives, sweethearts; their shape, description, condition, nobly or ignobly born. In an annual ingress whether war or peace may be expected: of victory, who overcomes, and who worsted; fugitives or run-aways; banished and out-lawed men.

It hath cosignificators ♁ and ♃, ♆ or ♁ unfortunate herein show ill in marriage.

Of colour, a dark black colour.

It ruleth the haunches, and the navel to the buttocks; and is called the Angle of the West; and is masculine.

The Eighth house.

The estate of men deceased, death, its quality and nature; the wills, legacies and testaments of men deceased; dowry of the wife, portion of the maid, whether much or little, easy to be obtained or with difficulty. In duels it represents the adversary's second; in lawsuits the defendant's friends. What kind of death a man shall die. It signifies fear and anguish of mind. Who shall enjoy or be heir to the deceased.

It rules the privy-parts. Of colours, the green and black.

Of signs it hath ♀ for cosignificator, and ♆, the haemorrhoids, the stone,⁷ strangury,⁸ poisons, and bladder are ruled.....

p.55by this house; and [*this*] is a succedant house, and feminine.

The Ninth house.

By this house we give judgement of voyages or long journeys beyond seas; of religious men, or clergy of any kind, whether bishops or inferior ministers; dreams, visions, foreign countries; of books, learning, church livings, or benefices, advowsons;⁹ of the kindred of one's wife,¹⁰ & *sic e contrario*.¹¹

Of colours it hath the green and white.

Of man's body it ruleth the fundament,¹² the hips and thighs. ♃ and ♁ are cosignificators of this house; for if ♁ be herein placed it naturally signifies a devout man in his religion, or one modestly given; I have oft observed when the Dragon's Tail, or ♁ or ♆ have been unfortunately placed in this house; the Querent hath either been little better than an atheist or a desperate sectarist: The ☉ rejoiceth to be in this house, which is masculine, and cadent.

⁷ Gall stone.

⁸ Painful excretion of urine.

⁹ An ecclesiastical term meaning 'the right of presentation to a vacant benefice'.

¹⁰ Because it is the 3rd house from the 7th, which represents the spouse.

¹¹ '[and] so on the contrary'

¹² Buttocks.

The Tenth house.

Commonly it personifies kings, princes, dukes, earls, judges, prime officers, commanders in chief, whether in armies or towns; all sorts of magistracy and officers in authority; mothers, honour, preferment, dignity, office, lawyers; the profession or trade any one useth; it signifies kingdoms, empires, dukedoms, countries.

It hath of colours red and white, and ruleth the knees and hams.¹³

Its called the *Medium coeli* or Midheaven, and is feminine. Its cosignificators are ♃ and ♂; either ♃ or the ☉ do much fortunate this house when they are posited therein, ♃ or ♄ usually deny honour, as to persons of quality, or but little esteem in the world to a vulgar person, not much joy in his profession, trade or mystery, if a mechanic.

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The Eleventh house.

It doth naturally represent friends and friendship, hope, trust, confidence, the praise or dispraise of any one; the fidelity or falseness of friends; as to kings it personates their favourites, councillors, servants, their associates or allies, their money, exchequer or treasure; in war their ammunition and soldiery; it represents courtiers, &c., in a Common-wealth governed by a few of the nobles and commons, it personates their resistance in council: as in London the tenth house represents the lord Major; the eleventh the Common-council; the Ascendant the generality of the commoners of the said city.

Of members it ruleth the legs to the ankles. Of colours, it ruleth the saffron or yellow.

It hath of the signs ♋, and ☉ of the planets; for cosignificators ♃ doth especially rejoice in this house; it's a succedant house, and masculine, and in virtue is equivalent either to the seventh or fourth houses.

The Twelfth house.

It hath signification of private enemies, of witches, great cattle — as horses, oxen, elephants, &c.; sorrow, tribulation, imprisonments, all manner of affliction, self-undoing, &c., and of such men as maliciously undermine their neighbours, or inform secretly against them.

It hath cosignificators ♃ and ♀; ♃ doth joy in that house, for naturally ♃ is author of mischief; and it ruleth in man's body the feet.

In colour it presents the green.

It's a cadent house, feminine, and vulgarly sometimes called *cataphora*, as all cadent houses may be. This is the true character of the several houses according to the Ptolomeian doctrine, and the experience [I] myself have had for some years: I must confess the Arabians have made several other divisions of the houses, but I could never in my practice find any verity in them, wherefore I say nothing of them.

¹³ The 'ham', 'hamm' or 'hamme' describes the back of the leg above the knee.